

Energy Community Parliamentary Plenum

Venue: European Parliament, 60 rue Wiertz, Brussels

Date: 24 April 2025

Time: 10:30 – 12:30

1. Opening Remarks

- Welcome by Mr. Borys Budka, Chair, Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, European Parliament
- Statement by Ms. Yolanda Garcia Mezquita, Head of Unit, Relations with the Member States and the Energy Community, European Commission
- Statement by Mr. Shota Berekashvili, Chairperson of the Sectoral Economy and Economic Policy Committee of the Parliament of Georgia
- Statement by Mr. Artur Lorkowski, Director, Energy Community Secretariat

2. Exchange of views on Electricity Affordability

Securing access to affordable electricity supply, being critical for political and economic stability of the Contracting Parties, requires a predictable legal and regulatory framework conducive to development of competition and ensuring security of supply.

The full transposition and implementation of the Electricity Integration Package will enable the accelerated electricity market integration of the Contracting Parties into the EU, allowing cross-border access to cheap electricity and bringing competition and liquidity in the small national markets. This will ensure robust and stable prices on the wholesale markets across the region and enhance security of supply through cross-border cooperation. While the price convergence with the EU is already achieved in the wholesale market, the retail markets in the Contracting Parties remain largely foreclosed with electricity supply prices being regulated at the level below market price and two to three times lower than EU average. At the same time, both legal obligations under the Electricity Integration Package and the measures defined under the Reform Agendas require Contracting Parties to phased out price-setting and gradually adjust tariffs to cost recovery levels accompanied by energy poverty measures.

This discussion explores actions needed to ensure affordability of the electricity prices in the context of geopolitical, climate and economic challenges that the Europe, region and the Contracting Parties are experiencing. The role of the parliamentarians in designing and



implementing policies to secure long-term stability of energy supply at affordable prices while ensuring that vulnerable and energy poor customers are protected will be discussed.

3. Exchange of views on Integration of Renewables

The integration of the Energy Community parties into the EU electricity market is essential for achieving energy security, market efficiency, and energy transition. A well-functioning regional electricity market will facilitate the integration of renewable energy sources (RES), reducing dependence on fossil fuels and enhancing resilience.

Better RES integration is key to ensuring an effective and optimal decarbonisation pathway toward climate neutrality by 2050. However, the variability of wind and solar power presents challenges, particularly for systems with limited balancing capacity and outdated infrastructure. Strengthening regional cooperation and cross-border electricity trade, alongside investments in grid flexibility—such as storage, demand-side response, digitalisation, and hydropower optimisation—will be crucial for managing variable renewable energy (VRE) and maintaining system stability.

To accelerate this transition, the Energy Community promotes a range of tools. Instruments introduced in the Renewable Energy Directive (REDII), such as market-based support schemes (auctions), private Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), and Guarantees of Origin (GOs), are essential for driving investment, ensuring transparency, and verifying renewable energy production. Additionally, REDII enables greater citizen engagement through renewable self-consumption and energy communities, fostering a more decentralised and inclusive energy system.

This discussion explores how parliaments can shape regulatory frameworks to support renewable energy integration, drive policy debate, and ensure that necessary policies and incentives are in place. Legislative action plays a decisive role in advancing the energy transition by fostering an investment-friendly environment, strengthening regional cooperation, and aligning grid development with long-term decarbonisation goals.

4. Closing remarks by Mr. Lorkowski, Mr. Berekashvili and Mr. Budka